A KING'S GAMBIT

can be dignified with the name of of the match. an adventure, or about which clings the slightest association of mystery. Conceat-ment, indeed, except with regard to the "It real object of my "combinations," has allings. We are not ordinary beings. But ways been repuguant to me, and as for do you consent?" adventure, I have never willingly dared anything more serious than a voyage to America or a few nights in Eudapest. Excitement is bad for chess. Allow your brain to be upost, and you may overbook

Now to my narrative. In 1892, as you will remember. I became champion of the world, defeating the holder, after a very But how can you direct me? You can tough contest, by ten games to eight, with not come and give me hints during the several draws. I was immediately chal-lenged for a return match, but circum-stances hindered me from responding for some dime. In the summer of 1877, however, all the preliminaries were arranged, and I was preparing to set out for Mos-cow, where the match was to be fought. I was in the best of health and splirts, and confident of retaining my title; for, while I had improved since my last con- ;

On the evening of the 18th of August 1 gave the last of these exhibitions. It was, obstinate, there is no more to be said. I remember, a blindfold performance, and He signed to the two men who has I won nine of my ten names. The tenth could also have won; but to win it would this gentleman," he commanded. have involved exposing a little combination which I intended to play off on resistance. Leschevitsky in Moscow, and I therefore Leschevitsky in Moscow, and I therefore deliberately permitted my opponent to enjoy his little triumph. At 12 o'clock the last of my antagonists resigned, and I set off placidly for my humble lodgings. I walked, for these players, even the greatstanty that I could scarcely move a limb, the president advanced slowly toward me. In the dead silence I could hear his steps est, cannot afford small luxuries. Brains are not well puld in these days. There is ere rent thinking in one of my Evans' Gambits than in ten novels of — But, then, what can you expect? To succeed, you must be only just superior to your

I was walking gently on, thinking out noticed that two men were walking close I find gentle walking sufficient. However, I did not get far. In ten strides for bein, but no one was in sight.
"Don't be afraid," said one of my caping.

tors buietly; "come with us like a sen-sible man, and no harm will happen to you. s Resist," he added more sternly, and we shall know what to do."

I yielded to superior force, and necom-smied them meekly enough; so meekly, indeed, that though we passed several policemen on our march I gave no sign. | tered one of my two captors, who was on my arm, in fact, reminded me to remain quiet. After twenty minutes or so that indefinable look of superiority and give way. dignity which showed that they were not "Fifty-five!" sai ordinary criminals. At the head of the six! Fifty seven! table sat an elderly man who might even.

It was not cowardice nor the dread of in other circumstances, have been called death that made me change, but simply venerable, so regal and commanding was his aspect, and so awe-inspiring his voice. way or the other. I have felt it in chess,

captors introduced me, in a few words which I cuessed to be Russian; indeed, rather than healtare longer about a good some of them, from my cosmopolitan way of life, I was able even to understand; same they were not complimentary to me. I "I give in!" I satestart that the miscreants funcied they being prenounced. had got hold of a poor poltroon, on whom it would not be hard to impose their com- in a kindly, condescending voice. "It is mands. The president seemed rapidly to not pleasant to die young, grasp the situation, and then turned to "But," I replied, all my was but the slightest trace of a foreign vocable, "that only gives me more years accent to be detected

rogatively. It is," I replied.

"You are a chess-player?"

'And you are the champion of the world?" he went on. enjoyed that distinction.

"And you are going to Moscow at the end of this week to defend your title?

Very good. Now, let me assure you harm that if you obey our instructions you are in no danger whatever. He smiled a have shown an intense repugnance to the very sinister smile. I was more awell by idea of selling my gifts for money; for that scale than by the gloomy faces that be proceeded, as if answering my unlined the table. But if you deviate from spoken thought, "You are not receiving a our instructions in the slightest degree, bribe. You consented before. This is ar your life is not worth six months' pur- entirely unexpected honorarium. You need

n, he went on in a gentler tone;

vinced that you can easily afford to throw of moves I was to make, winced that you can easily anors to with their general meaning." Leschevitsky-

"I cannot sell my games," I said; for here he had touched me on a tender spot. Not even all the terror of that room, not the worst that they could do, should make me prostitute my skill for gain. Chees is the one sport, if sport it can bealled, which has never been tainted with the slightest whisper of suspicion; and the honor of the noble fraternity of chemown I am a coward, but the rack itself alld never make me sink so low as

"Stay," said the president, smiling; is gone." "you have not heard me out. We desire ou to do nothing dishonorable. You can you know that?" have simply to throw away two games in your forthcoming match. There is on thing in that. Have you never lost a how I should answer these ridiculous game in the rast in order to store up anoves, and I say there is a mate in four your strength for the next one? More- at the end." over, we are not ignorant of your powers. We are convinced that, allowing for all reasonable chances, Leschevitsky cannot score more than four or five games there so intellectual an instrument here?"

to your ten. Since your last match wit. The president, much interested, had the him you have met on seven occasions, and board brought. I was in my element; he has never won a game from you. You are young, and he is old. Every hartyear diminishes his powers and increases thus. I play so. Lenchevitsky will an-

I shall now explain the one and only in- | We shall lose them, for we do not play cident in my life which needs explaining according to Steinitz; but their loss wilthe sole event in my placid existence make no difference to the ultimate result

This is an extraordinary proposal," "It is; we do not act like ordinary be

"You must give me time," I answered, 'My chess reputation will suffer, and l annot permit that

"Only temporarily. You play two game ecording to our directions, and the remainder as you please. The reputation

"No; you are to play from direction "Ridiculous?" I cried, "You do not kno the moves that Leschwitsky will make and the result will be most absurd. fact, many of the moves may be quit-

"We will risk that," said the president "But what will be thought of me?" shricked. "The moves are published for ated. Before departing a played a few all the world to see. This match is not exhibition games at Simpson s, in which played in a corner; the eyes of every-I showed clearly that I had lost none of body are upon it. How can I make my-

"Then," said the president, "If you are brought me to the meeting, "Blindfold obeyed, in spite of my frantic, if feeble,

"Now, carry him to that chair and tie like the notes of doom

"Now," he said as the drops of sweat broke out on my brow, "we are determined. We give you five minutes. Then-Get the garrotte ready," he said to some

You who have never been in such a position may full to realize its horror. You, my little trap for Leschevitsky, dreaming, on the other hand, who have no reputation indeed, of anything rather than of poliessinations, when suddenly I to attain, and at last attained, a distinct tion in any walk of life which is to you behind me. I confess it-I have no phys- worth more than life itself, may smile at Look at my size, if you what to you is the ridiculous scruple that wonder at it. There are some choss play-kept me so long undecided. What is it to ers who are tall and strong, but they are you, the mere performance of a set of dicnot the greatest. I quickened my pace, but the two men followed. My heart beat quickly—shall I own it? I ran, though than another? Not so did it seem to me. violent exercise is not the kind of train-ing in which I indulge before a great if I refused, a moral death if I consented. Never again, I knew, would chess be as it had been; never again should I hold the two men were up with me, and each, up my head among my peers. The choice not ungently, seized an arm. Do you wonder that I was terrified? I looked round through my brain as rapidly as it is said. they do through the brain of one drown

"Four minutes gone," said the stern voice of the president. "You have one minute in which to make your choice. Still silent?" he added after a pause; "and" -turning to his followers-"you told

me this man was a coward? "He showed precious little fight," mut-A warning compression of their fingers violasiy one of those poor foois to whom

material things alone appeal.

A coward I was and am; but the choice of rapid walking, we reached a house in a by-street. Here my companions knocked. The door was instantly opened, and man, however timid, has one thing which after a few words in a language which I will make him turn. Out of the slience did not understand, the doorkeeper ushered as upstairs into a room on the second which be was holding in his hand to count floor. Here all my terror did not prevent the seconds. I mechanically counted the instant perception that I had fallen sounds while uninterruptedly pursuing aninto the hands of Nihilists, Anarchists, or other train of thought. Scruples, counterother secret society; for round a scrupics, chased each other through my long table were gathered some twenty brain; but I saw that if I yielded chess men, upon whose faces was stamped the was over for me: it had lost all that mark of desperation and sacredness which had hitherto secured crime, while there was also not wanting my undoubting devotion. I would never He took the piece and in less than an

"Fifty-rive!" said the president. "Fifty-

To this aged Rhadamanthus my two when my clock was running out; the impaptors introduced me, in a few words pulse to make a move I knew to be bad one. Many people must have felt the

"I give in!" I said, just as the sixty was "That is wise," responded the president

"But," I replied, all my hatred of my He spoke in English, in which there bargain returning on me now it was irre of misery to go through. You are aware Your name is Cohen?" he said, inter- that I shall never be able play chess

"We have some notion of that" said the "A Jew"

"Yes; but my family has been in Enginto your feelings. We are quite conscious that you are making a great sacri-fice." A pause, "Remove the bandages," I drew myself up proudly. "I am," I be said to his assistants; and I was rethe president, and I was myself again
snawered. "Most people are aware of stored to a mockery of liberty. "And My opponent, perhaps a little over-confi therefore," he went on, "the society has decided to compensate you for the loss of your livelihood by the sum of the thous For the last three or four years I have and pounds. I did not tell you of this before; I could see by your attitude that such an offer was the very thing to make you refuse even to the death; but now moves. that you have promised, it can do no

Even then, however, I felt and must He paused again for his words feel no shame. Now we have just a few

trilling formalities to go through. As for me, I cannot explain with what live began a forrible ceremony, the terror they filled me: I was as one details of which I spare the reader, instunned. The president watched me with volving all the most detestable ingenuities his keen eyes flaming from under his of mental torture which the human mind shaggy brows. As if satisfied with his inmyself by tevelble impressitions to reveal Let me repeat, this service involves no nothing of what had happened until three danger and no dishonor to you. I know years had passed. This over, the president all about your chess skill. We are con- handed me a paper containing the two sets

"There is no need to disguise from you "They are a code. For example, your first move is D 1 to D 4-no outrage to chess there-is there?-and that means some guess; only two persons in the world on sess the key. Your second move is H 1 to H 2, your third B 1 to C 2, and so on

There are twelve enoves in each game I glanced down the first list, and as the picture of the resulting position as before my mind I grouned aloust. "Leschevitsky will announce mate in four, I observed despairingly. "My reputation

"Nonsensel" cried the president. "How "I am one chess player," I answered 'and Leschevitsky is another. I know how I should answer these ridiculous

There was a murmur of incredulity. turned round scorufully. "Bring me a chess board, if you doubt it," I said. "Is

fear had departed, enthusiasm remained. See here," I said, "the first game will go then, simply, that swer so. I follow according to the paper. we shall play two of your games for you. He answers—the natural reply." I rap-

idly moved the pieces, neved glancing at the paper, while the president, who was not without a tincture of intelligence, ollowed attentively. "Now," I observed, we have both made twelve moves. Here omes the mate in four; Leschevitsky scriffces his queen and wins whatever I

You are indeed a genius," said the resident, after assuring himself that my lemonstration was correct. "Let me asure you, Mr. Cohen, that your chess eputation, whatever may happen to it the outer world, will not lose with us on obtusa adeo gestamus pectora Paent; e can admire intellect. Now as to the econd game—the second to which you

"As to that," I replied, running my eywiftly down the column, and summaning up a picture of a board almost instanta deously, "if Leschevitsky plays as be outh, there can be no doubt of that ither. The twelfth move will be a false ne, and I shall forfelt the game in con-

ie floor, and running quickly through the moves, "at this point," move 8, 1 am of sure what Leschevitsky will do; I myself should move Pawn to Queen's sixth; but he will probably be a little more cautious, and castle. I then move Knight to Rook's fifth; he answers Pawn Knight's third, thus; and so on. Then at move 12, I am required to move my Bishop; this exposes my Queen to a check a false move, and I lose the game."
"Wonderful!" said half a dozen voices

"Mr. Cohen," said the president, "you ave convinced us that, though you will se these two games, you will not lose nother. An intellect like yours will sucged in any walk of life, especially with a ou no longer."

My two captors led me to the door, 'Stay," cried the president, "you are eaving the paper behind."
"I shall not require it," I replied. "I

do not forget games that I have once "Nor onths you have once sworn?" "Nor oaths I have once sworn."
"See him home," ordered the president,

and treat him with the respect his intellect deserves." I staggered out of the room, Excite nent had kept me up while there; but the revulsion was too much for my nerves, and I reached home more dead than alive,

I need not linger over the events of the ext few weeks. I set out for Moscow oon afterward, necompanied by two of my friends, who seemed perplexed by my alternate fits of loquecity and tacit nrnity. At the frontier of Russia it was citement. We were plainly the objects of spicion. My two friends, much to their amusement, were subjected to a rigid cross-examination and our passports were inspected with the closest acrutiny Every paper was turned over, and al baggage, but nothing was After a detention of some hours we were allowed to pass. Me, curiously enough they did not seem specially to suspect but, I remembered, they must know that the match was a genuine affair.

On arriving at Moscow I took two or three days to recover from the fatigue of the journey, and then the match began, Obedient to instructions, I played the first game—having the choice of moves—precisely according to the paper. As the game proceeded Leschevitsky's face was a perfect study. At my second move he started, and at my fourth he positively leaped from his seat in amazement. Sus pecting a trap, he sat down again and stared at the board as if his eyes would pierce right through it. He took half an our over a needless analysis of the posi tion, and then made precisely the reply I had anticipated. For very shame I has te make some pretence ut reflection; ac cordingly I spent ten minutes staring at the pieces, and then moved my Knight into the very thick of the enemy's forces Again Leschevitsky started, obviously thinking either that I was mad or that I meant to insult him by childishly throw-ing away a game I had stready imperiled. hour finished off the game by the sacrirender. He murnipred some polite noth ings to the effect that I must be "out of form, as you English call it." but was evidently hardly able to conceal his aston As for my two backers, they

were more outspoken. "What the deuce did you mean by play-ing the fool like that?" said one. "A little new combination." I muttered

Combination be -- " said the other "Why, your pieces were all over the board, and your King nowhere. Leschevitsky could have beaten you with his pawns alone."

"Retter lock next time," I said. "Better play," unawered my first friend or we shall think you've sold the match There'll be some pretty notes in 'Field" next week. Nice fools we shall look, coming all the way to Moscow to see play that is more skittles than chess. I pleaded a headache, and somehow got

rid of them. Next day was not in my bargain with e president, and I was myself again. careless in the opening. After a dozen moves I gained a pawn, and, pressing my advantage remornelessly, accumulated su

"That was more like it " said my mon tor, on the way to the hotel, "You neve played better; at this rate you are mafe

The next day was a holiday, having been set aside for unfinished games. had full leisure to reflect upon the abour figure I was going to cut on the morrow from my two friends. However, ther was no help for it. I had pledeged my word, and I knew that if I falled to keep it I should never leave Moscow less of the audible disgust of my friend played as I had promised; but Leschi citaky, rendered cautious by his disaster did not answer as I expected. He everal defensive moves where attack was equired. I emerged from the opends lost the game, prolonged it to fifty move My supporters, while amazed at n pening, thought that my middle and end play had almost made up for it. for goodness sak- don't play the fool any

"I won't," I promised seriously; and meant it. The next few days almost entirely re habilitated me. Leschevitsky gave me ar

opportunity of playing off my new attack n the Ruy Lopez-thanks to my selfcontrol in my blindfeld game at Sime on's-and I scored a bruitant game is twenty moves. At the end of three weeks our. Both of us felt the strain of so pro tracted a contest, but I was justly confident that it could not last more than day or two longer. As a matter of fact, single game decided it.

Hardly had three moves been made when when I noticed that Leschevitsky aneuvres were as erratic as mine had seen a few days previously. Could be be losing his wits? I knew that he had sometimes shown symptoms of the insanity so closely allied to great talent. At the sixth move a muttered, "Well, I'm from my supporters showed me that sky's Rook was en prise. I glanced at his face, and the secret was revenled. There was on it a look telling plainly that he, like me, had fallen into the Ni-

hillst toils-a look of otter distress, selfcontempt, but submission to overpower-ing necessity. I never 1961d Leschevitsky, but sympathy for his sad fate overcame me. I darted to him a glance of understanding and fellow-feelfng; I knew too well, from my own experience, what he must be going through at that moment to wish to add to the natural bitterness of defeat. I took the Rook, and Leschevitsky replied with a helpless and meaningess excursion of his Queen. Four or five moves later he moved his Knight so as to xpose his King to check. "A false ove," I said.

it is," he responded, as if releved to find the game over. "I resign, and beg to congratulate you. We are but pawns on the chessboard of destiny," he

"Just so," I answered, "We are not lways masters of ourselves.

When the congratulations were over, I went back to my hotel in company with ny two friends. They were full of aston-"Leschevitsky must have been mad."

"Never saw such play out of the nurssaid the other

"Except Cohen's play in the first and third games," answered his friend,
"Yes, and that's the extraordinary thing about it. He might have caught your

No. I answered, "he was tired of the match, and thought he had no chance of winning six games running; so he threw

'He didn't threw his old matches away. whatever his chances," said my friend, "Look at his match with Zickerport; five games to one against him, and he went and never lost another.

'Ah, but he is old now," I replied,

"It seemed to me more like pettishness than age," observed my friend. "No," said the other, who was more keen-sighted; "it was more like hypnotism or possession. He seemed compelled to play that way against his will. Several times he all but touched the proper piece, and then, as if contrained, changed his mind and moved another. Anyhow, there's something uncarny about it."
"Well, Cohen's still champion; that's

good thing." I did not say what passed through my

mind: "But won't be long." A complimentary dinner to us two mas ters was given that evening. Leschevitsky, much to his honor, showed no me ification at his defeat. He had, he said in his speech, been beaten by a better player, the Morphy of his generation. He imself, he added, was satisfied with what he had done. He should henceforth neither challenge me for the title of champion, nor, indeed, play chess again

This declaration, which astounded the rest of the audience, was no surprise to me. Judging by my own feelings, I thoroughly understood Leschevitsky's matives. After such a game as he had played that day, chess had lost all charm for him. For thirty years he had been champion; for thirty years, in good health or bad, in success or defeat, he had alike done his best-till that morning. There must be many of my readers-oarso cricketers, swimmers-wife will appreciate to some extent his state of mind; but cumstances, who only knew that chess was Leschevitsky's be-all and end-all, either mutely wondered or laughingly ob-

served that time would show.

Then, when I rose, and after compliments to my rivel, and thanks to my henceforth renounce the pursuit of chess, the amazement was far more profound and obvious. "No, no," sounded from a score of throats. Several sprakers, rising after I sat down, urged me to reconsider my decision. However, I was firm; it was only after much solicitation that I consented to defer the public announcement till my arrival in England. I well knew that nothing could alter me; I had been through too great a change in th

As you may imagine, it had not been vithout a most determined effort that I had constrained myself to give proper at testion to the match. The effort had been made, and successfully made; but it left me limp and exhausted. I was well on my way home before my mind recovered rough of its tone to be able even to ejecture what precisely was the ser ice I had so unwillingly done to the Nihillst enuse; but when, on my arrival is London, strength of body and mind did return, the problem dominated me to the armstic remarks in the "Fleid" on my first and third games aroused but a lan-guid interest. I flung the paper aside, and my brain returned of its own a cord to its censeless surmises and combinations. Never had a complicated omition on the chemboard a mind as did this question. That my first and third games, when written out in the entinental notation, contained a message from the English Nihilists to their Rusbrethren I was practically certain from the president's own avowal, and eded no ayowai to meure me that Leschevitsky's last game contained the mawer of the Russian society. Like me he had been seized and compelled against his will to communicate the message in a cipher which he did not understand, whose general drift he too certainly guessed. What a safe and simple device these men had conceived! Without crossing the frontier, without even leaving the charmed circle of London, they could, by means of their code send instructions of the most deadly import to their confedrates within the danger-haunted walls of Moscow. I admired their skill, as the and admired my chees ability, unaffected and deeply. Published in the pages of the "Field" and other English papers, the secret missive would be easily accessible o the London organization; published in the Russian chess columns, it would pas and be read by the Mescow officials of a hundred solutions, turned over th es in a hundred ways, combined th ymbols with the ingenuity of a comme tator on Revelation endeavoring to solv the riddle of the Benst, but in valu emembered Edgar Alfan Poe's dietu hat no cryptogram can be invented

mman ingenuity which human ingenuit anot solve; and I was sore that no hu non ingenuity exceeds that of a chess layer. Relying on this conviction, I spent ays and filled reams of paper in the vali Finally, completely buffled, I decided that robably D 1 referred to a certain page of a particular book, and that until I sie. Such cryptograms, indeed, if crypto er Poels rule. Suppose, for example hat I) I meant the lirst word o heet of a particular folio, and C 3 th

hird word on the C sheet of the san io; then, how could the problem be soly ed without the key? Suddenly, in a flush, a thought struck ne, and overwhelmed me with herror, emembered that when I was last in Eng and the Czar was there. Surely, thet Russia was meant to give information : o his movements! The English Nilillists with their infernal ingenuty and perso erance, had contrived to find out the Czar's real plans-different as the No sooner had this idea atruck me that rashed to a library, and with furieagerness took down a file of th land, and was on his way to Russia vi-Berlin. Such was the information youth mfed to the world; but I had airead; eason to believe it was a blind. His reourse might be through Demmark an

Sweden; whatever it was the Nihilists

The general idea once gained, other and etailed suggestions crowded in. Might of D 4 mean that the Czar was o stay four days in Denmark? B 1 to C might denote one day in Berlin and three in Cronberg: H might signify Helingfors: D, in the second game, Do perhaps Cronstadt. Several of these onjectures I jotted down on a sheet of fident that I was on the right track, went to sleep. My dreams were haunted with confused visions of Leschevitsky as the Czar being blown up along with 500 chesamen, in the streets of Moscow, while a Black Knight endeav ored to enforce order by calling out, Pawn to King's Fourth.

Next morning, when I went-early, as mal-into my sitting-room, I saw two avelopes pinned in a peculiar way to my desk. One, I found, contained fifty hur dred-pound Bank of England notes. president had kept his word, and I had en set above want. The other envelope ontained a letter, which I here trans

'Here you will find the £5,000 we prom ed you. The society keeps its word. We neerely hope that no foolish scruple will iduce you to refuse to accept it. For what has happened you have no respon sibility; the society has but used you a a pawn in its game of kings. Farewell! Below, in pencil, was a postscript, which

iterested me even more than the letter; "I have read your little conjectures mity, which is greater than even your chess play had led me to suspect-too great, indeed, for you ever to be employ ed again. Rest, then, in peace. Not that you are altogether right. The Czar has assed through Denmark and be did pend some time in Helsingfors, but he never went to Cronberg; and though he mas been to Dorpat, he has, in spite of our ingenious Itinerary; not yet left it." and peculiar flourish ended the

I read this curious and sinister epistle several times. I was not surprised that it should have reached me, for I knew the daring and determination with which I had to do. As I sat twirling it in my finfast and my morning paper. I opened it with the cryptogram. I was annoyed hat so many of my guesses should have been wrong, and wished to try a few I gianced without interest down the columns of parliamentary news, and chaffing contest with a tripper and on the turned listlessly to the central page. Now point of coming to blows with him. was instantly all attention, for my eye ell on a headline, "Rumored Attempt on

"Information has reached us, which we gram, "that his Imperfal Majesty has nution. His future movements after leaving our shores had been so carefully con cented from all but a few of his most ous how his real route was discovered Passing, contrary to announcement, through Denmark, he stayed in Berlin at one night, and after some circuitou wanderings arrived at Helsingfors, the recent troubles in Finland requiring his ersonal attention. Thence he went by acht to Cronstadt, where he inspected the fortress; and next, in absolute privay, pald a visit to Dorpat. There is renson for believing that his course had been watched by Nihillsts from the first; but wis at Dorpat that the murderous atempt is rumored to have taken place The house where he was staying was lown up, several of his attendants were killed, and he himself was slightly injured, escaping with his life only by ele. The police are actively engaged in tracing out the miscreants.

"Later-The rumor of the attempted assassination of the Czar is practically ad-mitted to be true. The body of one of the supposed murderers has been found un-der the ruins of the house. In his pocket, till uninjured, was found a complete list of all the places at which the Czar stayed furing his journey from England."

"Well," I said to myself, "the president was right. Chess is indeed a game of

Two or three days after, I noticed in a corner of the paper the news that "Leschevitsky, the famous chess player, had shown symptoms of scute Insunity, and had been placed under restraint."—
E. E. Kellett in Chambers' Journal.

Bits. E. E. Kellett in Chambers' Journal.

MEN WHO JUST MISS PEERAGES.

And Some Who Get Them Under Dra. matic Circumstances. It is among the many curiosities of the House of Lords that, while many mer enter it by the most devious and obscur roads and others find their way in b nistake, there are others who get to it ery portals, when death intervenes an shuts them in their very faces. John Macdonald, the great Canadian

ame that he was dead and would never eed his coronet. The same ironical fate overtook the ite Mr. W. H. Smith when he propose o rest from his labors of the Common he hard-working politicism into a visunt. In both these cases, however, the lignity was not lest, for it was trans ferred, by the wish of the Queen, to the

tutesman, for whom a patent of peerage cas actually being prepared when news

vives of the dead statesmen Lord Leighton, too, found his dignity matched from him before he had fairly grasped it, for death came quick on its cels, and his tenure of a peerage was perhaps, the shortest on record. It is not often that a mistake is made

n conferring such an honor as that of peerage; but it has happened at least once, and through a telegraphic blunder. When the Prime Minister offered a barsetcy to the late Lord Hammond (ther plain Mr. Hammond), by some curious error the word "barony" was substituted for "haronetcy," and Mr. Hammond's prompt acceptance of the dignity made the mistake irrevocable. He blos into Lord Hammond; but, as he had no on the dignity died with him.

Many of our peers who have lived to take their seats in the House of Lords ave previously filled roles which a House of Lords messenger would consider b neath his dignity. One well-known earl, the thirteenth of a long and distinguished line of earls, carned his living as a jockey dignities.

Another earl received the news of his devation under very singular circumstances. He was a clover musician and more or less precarious income by playing arelessly, for my mind was still toying and singing on the sands at seaside re-

When a solicitor went down to Brighton to announce his accession to the earl-dom he found the new peer engaged in a

A third earl, who so far has not found his way into the House of Lords, is the sen of an Aberdeen bank agent, who unexpectedly awoke one morning to find sin he was a full-blown Scottish earl. Th present peer, the son of the Aberdeen banker, had gone out to America some years cariler as a cowhoy, and was on his father's elevation, which made him a courtesy "lord," leading the hard-workog primitive life of a "backwoods"

When a fourth earl came into his title e was picking up a living in New Zealand as farm laborer, content with a local reputation as an expert fencer and ditcher.

One of our barons is at this moment head man of an Indian village in the Northwest Provinces, as good a native as any of his fellow-villagers, and married to a native woman; and an English earl whose romantic promotion is still of recent memory went straight to the House of Lords from the humble position of hall keeper in Chelsea.

Many men following humble vocations have positively refused to be made peers. It is said that the last Baron Beauville was a gardener at Tunbridge Wells, preferred to die a gardener rather than pererrest to die a gardeller rather than assume what he facetiously called a "bar-ren" title. The heir to the Viscounty of Allen is said to be a South London gro-cer who elects to stick to his counter; and the heir to the Barony of Fernbor-ough, who was found-in a workhouse, flatty declined to "hother himself about titles."

Among members of the peerage who

(From Life.) Bilkins. The doctor says I have only a year to fre. Ah! If I could only lengthen that year out loto a resectable lifetime. Califor. Why dust you move to Brooklyn?

Adulterated.

(From the Detroit Free Press.)

Couldn't Help It.

(From the Bultimore American.)

His Little Joke.

(From the Chicago News.)

Van Albert-Raising my hand against a woman

His Opinion

(From the Philadelphia Press.)

A Chance for Two Files

She-Am I the only girl that you have ever

He Am I the only man that you have ever put

saming de responsibilities ob matrimony at de early age ob sixvers! Mrs. Jackson Vars. indeed? Wha, I'll bet dut in less in an months for harband will be thrown on de town in supposit!

Pachyderms.

(From the Philadelphia Press.)

"No. Ther are known as the Eleph and, me ome of them actually carry men on their backs." "The idea"

(From the Brooklyn Eagle.) Unde Greinw Per been getting a lot of long speweitten letters along patent medicine lately.

Three Times and Out.

(From the Detroit Free Press.)

they're the white ants, seen't they're ask

HUNTING WITH A CAMERA.

How Photography Is Saving Wild

Creatures From Destruction. "Lives of the Hunted" is the title of a new book by Ernest Seton-Thompson, who in private life is Ernest T. Seton. On he day when the first copies of the work were delivered by the publisher the news-sapers contained accounts of the arrest f the author in Colorado by a game warten. The charge against Mr. Seton was The charge against Mr. Seton was suiting a bear frap. He was put to mi Merker for trial he had no difficulty in envincing the judge that he had never a his life bailed a bear trup, and that then he was placed under arrest he was simal life than a photographic camera "It was a ridiculous charge," said Mr. who takes delight in harassing Essiera isitors, the people in Colorado know how o look upon it; but to my friends in this part of the country the proceedings look-ed queer. I have had much experience with wild animals, but have never been

in avocate of slaughter," and he point to tote in his new book, which reads: "My chief motive, my most carnest un-derlying wish, has been to stop the exermination of harmless wild animals; not for their sakes, but for ours, firmly be-lieving that each of our native wild creatures is in itself a precious heritage that yond the reach of our children."

"The camera is really the new weap of the wild animal hunter," said Mr. Seton. "The anatomy, habits and peculi-arities of animals have always been of interest to the hunter, but the study of productive of better results by the use of the camera. Men who have tried both weapons usually agree that it takes more time to shoot with a camera than with a gun, but there is much pleasure derived from the successful camera shots. An ex-posed shoulder will answer the purpose of the man who shoots with a gun, but the photographer needs a full view, close range and perfect light conditions before he can hope for good results. His best chances are accidental, and for that reaon he must be on the lookout just much as though he carried a gun. Men who go into the woods to make pictures of animals must have huntsmen's knowldge to be successful, and for that reason he best hunt is become the most suc-

essful photographers. "The deer's best weapon against the unter is its scent, and to approach the hen locate the animals from ridges and high points. The least noise is heard by overed by the same he stands still and him. That is sometimes a putlence tryng experience, because if the deer has iscovered the man he uses the same tacties. He also stands still in his tracks experience in Colorado recently. I came ipon a deer, and, knowing that by moving sufficiently to bring my instrument into play I should frighten him, I mained as nearly motionless as possible, and the deer did the same. The animal vas so perfectly motioniess that after a while it looked to me like a part of the really was a deer there. My failure to move must have had a similar effect on the animal, for after an interval that, according to my calculation, must have been more than eleven minutes, he backed into the woods and disappeared.

"It is even more difficult to get a snap at bears, and knowing that the animals are in a certain part of the country one can do nothing more than wait for them to come and have their pictures taken. Some of the best opportunities present themselves after sundown at times when the man with the gun would have no diff. culty in bringing down his game, while the man with the camera may find the little avallable light in the wrong quarter

The hunter author has some fine photographs of reindeer which he made in Nor-way last year. "We saw the drove," he the distance, but the wind wrong way we could not stalk them. But they came our way, and the photographs which I succeeded in making were

tweive feet away. Despite all the cars and trouble con-sected with the work about 20 per cent of the photographic efforts in the woods are a failure. But the successful snaps give the man who hunts with the camera more real pleasure than the man who hunts with the gun experiences over his uccessful ventures. And that is the reason, according to Mr. Seton, why so many old hunters have laid aside the gun for

the photographic instrument. They get all the excitement of the hunt," he says, "and need not destroy the animal. Some men have tried to do both at the same time, but they made only failures of their undertaking, and it took them only a short time to learn that a gun and a camera do not go together,

Each one takes a man's whole time."

The old woodsmen laughed at the camera hunter when he first came to the "I suppose," began the Crafty Lobbytst, "that you like other statesmen, have your price." "Nope," answered the Intelligent Legislator, "I had mine, but I have spent it." and they have gained respect for him and acknowledged his good standing in the profession. A few years ago Mr. Seton nt lantern slide apparatus to "Steve" Leck, a well-known hunter in Wyoming, with instructions how to make pictures. The man took kindly to the work, others followed his example, and a new order things has been the result. Formerly the hunters and guides met at lodges and ranches in the "off seasons" and told stories of what they had seen and what they had captured or killed, and there ceing no one to contradict the statements, many great stories were told. Men listened patiently to "whoppers," and then got even by telling a greater one. Now these same guides have a shanty where they make pictures and lantern sildes, and when they meet they show what they saw, and there is no doubt as to the truth of the story told by the camera.

The consequence of this new form of hunting is that the men have become ofucated, have discovered new traits in ani-mals, new beauties in their surroundings, and in those parts of the Far West where the number of camera hunters is large

the have increased "Formerly," suid Mr. Seton, "a guide ould ask his chum when they met, afor having been separated for a few weeks, what tuck he had with his gon, y he liked some new ammuniti thether he thought of getting a new mooting from Nowadays it is usual to hear: 'Say, "Jack," what do you think of that new developer?" or, 'How's our camera working? or 'Do you use olygolic in your mixture?' I heard one an say recently:

I'm in for a quick camera next year." "You? How'll you get the seventy-

Why, sell my horses, if I must." At one of the recent backwoods exhibishowed an interesting picture of beavers cutting down a tree. One of the hunters xamined the picture, shook his head, and proncunced it "a fake." "They look nough like beavers," he said, "but they are stuffed, and were put up just to be shotographed. Everybody knows that beavers work by night, and you can't

get a finablight picture of them." But the woodsman was only half right. The animals do usually work at night. on they have days of industry also, and t was this man's good luck to catch them is the act, and he succeeded in proving to beavers at work on the tree.

CURRENT HUMOR

Indiscretion (From the Detroit Free Press.) es-Our boys don't seem to respect me Well, you oughtn't to have let

The Main Point.

(From Life.) "They say that apple butter is infulrented a great deal now," said Mrs. Cumss. "Yes, much of it is only apple butterine," added Mrs. Vaswer. He-I am afraid my religious views are not the ame as yours, clear.

She That need not necessarily make any dif-erence. We both belong to the same golf club.

Ability.

(From Puck.) er-It's a wonder Roadsley didn't give engagement in his company. He thinks on're a good actor.
Actor Does hal
Munager-Yes; he says you can
slary as it you expected to get it.

Cheerfully Complied.

(Fram the Philadelphia Record.) "Yes," said the spokesman of the laborers, ag-essively, "we want our hours reduced." "Yery well," returned the crafty employer, instead of giving you as hour for limb we'll ake it thirty minutes."

The Realistic School.

(From the Baltimore American.)
"This," said the Eminent Artist, "is my faces study of the Cons in Clover."

"Rur where is the clover?" we asked, not g any of it in the picture.
"Oh, the name have exten it, you know,"

(From the Philadelphia Press.). 'Haven't made much progress since vesterday, to your reflected the bare. 'Ger whire, but "Yes," replied the tertime, hauguidly, "that' as, I appose if there's anything in that transmirration theory I must have been a messenger boy at one time."

(From the Detroit Free Press.):

They had been married a year before anyholes it, and even then their secret was discool only by accident." "Yes, one evening it a eard party they thought-only played partners, and the way they quar-iled let the whole thing out?"

The Original Woman. (From the Baltimore American.)

he was criting a letter to her chargities to man Chin's wife, and the asked Adam other sheet of birch bark to complete

missive upon. All right," said Adam, 'but you had hetter try to arite any postacripin Economy. (From the Chicago Tribune.)

Wes. Chingwater What do you have such cheap-shirts for? Ther are the most expensive in the end. They're all work out after you large had thoug exalled half a dosen times. Mr. Clinewater Then they only out me 60 cents for sushible, and that's a big saving. You go on with your fault cannuts. You can't teach are nothing shout laying sheets.

Inexensable. (From The Chicago Tribine.)

(From the Detroit Free Press.)

Mrs. Foelick was sure she heard the quick of breaking chira in the hitchen, but she for side must be mistaken when she entered and saw the Joyces face of her cosk.

"I'm as glad to've broke it mum," B idget said, bramming with delight.

"Why, it's one of my best cups," said Mgs. Kurdick, surveying the remains.

"Yes'm, "Added Bridget, cheerfully, "but to the segued it's all done. Ye seg, I had broke two-sit em before, an' I knew O'd have to break monther before Ot quit, an' it's a great combut to have it all done."